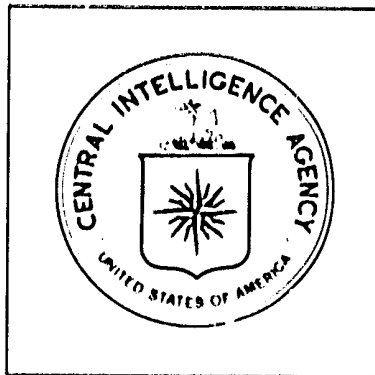


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STAFF NOTES:

Soviet Union Eastern Europe

DIA review(s) completed.

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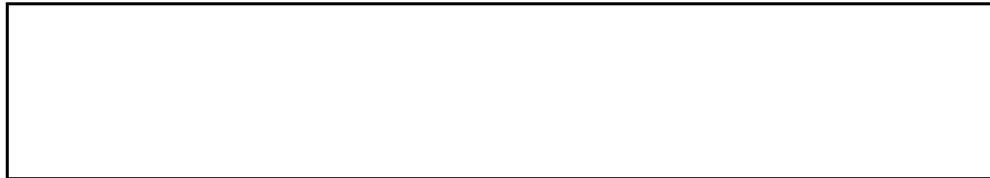
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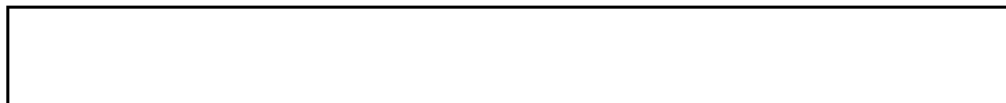


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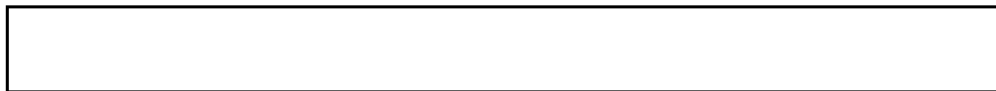
USSR - Middle East 1



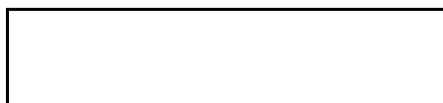
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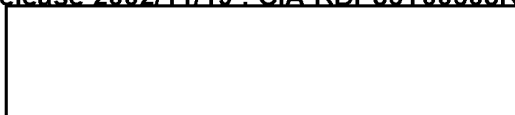


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USSR - Middle East


The Soviets have privately given the new Sinai disengagement agreement a mixed review. Their comments suggest, however, that they are more concerned about staking out a role for themselves in new Middle East negotiations than about blocking the disengagement accord.

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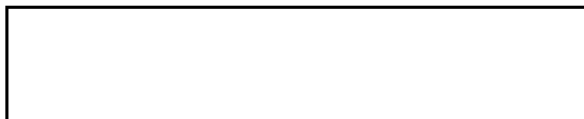
Last Friday in Washington, another Soviet diplomat raised the threat of Soviet obstructionism more directly. He contended the UN Emergency Force was no longer needed in the Sinai because the Egyptian-Israeli agreement amounted to a peace treaty with an open ended duration.

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This type of bluster seems more an effort to impress the US with the need to take Soviet interests into account rather than a portent of a Russian veto. Comments  seem to imply that Moscow would find it easier to swallow UN policing of the agreement if the Soviets are not called on to endorse it directly, or to accept the idea of a separate US presence in the Sinai.

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Romanians Delighted with Weyand Visit

The visit of the US army chief of staff, General Weyand, to Bucharest early this month delighted Romanian officials and sent Warsaw Pact military attaches scrambling for details.

Colonel General Coman, General Weyand's counterpart, spoke eloquently both about his own trip to the US earlier this year and General Weyand's return visit. Coman volunteered that he personally "felt very emotional" at the farewell ceremonies, and was "choked with pride" when General Weyand waved a small Romanian flag as he boarded his aircraft.

Bucharest's ill-concealed pleasure with the visit has led Pact attaches to clamor for information about what happened. The Bulgarian attache, for example, grilled the US defense attache on such specifics of the visit as who welcomed and saw the General off, the itinerary, and with whom General Weyand talked. The Soviet attache, who habitually asks questions by making statements, wondered if Secretary Schlesinger will visit Romania "this year or next."

All the Pact attaches obviously suspect that arms purchases were discussed. General Coman whimsically suggested that the US attache tell his overly curious Pact counterparts that "Romania has ordered 2,000 US tanks, half have been delivered, and the aircraft are on the way."

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East Germany: Favoritism in the Far East

At recent receptions on the national days of North Vietnam and North Korea, the East Germans clearly displayed their preference for Hanoi.

Party chief Honecker led a delegation that included virtually the entire Politburo--including candidate members--to the North Vietnamese reception. By marked contrast, only one Politburo member--who was not present at the Vietnamese celebration--and a handful of lesser functionaries attended the North Korean reception.

Media coverage of the two functions also reflected the tilt in favor of Hanoi that is characteristic of East Germany's continuing support of Moscow's views of the Asian communists. (At present, Moscow's relations with Hanoi are considerably warmer than Soviet ties with Pyongyang.) The East German party daily devoted front page coverage, including a large photo, to the affair, and the full texts of speeches were printed. The coverage of the North Korean ambassador's reception was limited to a small reference on page two of *Neues Deutschland*.

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